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*Unemployment and Trade Unions.* By CYRIL JACKSON. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1910. 8vo, pp. xiii+92.

In this study Mr. Jackson presents a plan for the immediate relief of the unemployed in Great Britain derived from his many years of investigation while a member of the Poor Law Commission and other similar bodies. State relief works and state labor exchanges having failed, he advocates governmental co-operation with trade union exchanges and the granting of subsidies for the aid and extension of union unemployment insurance. By persuasion and example the state should obtain from employers a more general distribution of work in times of depression. Finally, by prohibition of work for those under fifteen, by continuation schools, and by two years of military training boys should be prevented from entering unskilled trades. Since the author admits (p. 86) that co-operation with trade unions is impossible if these organizations continue their political activity this part of his plan has, under present conditions, little practical value. The need of better labor exchanges and the value of continuation schools are, however, made quite apparent by the citation of many concrete cases and the discussion of these two subjects is easily the most instructive part of the book.

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*The History of the Telephone.* By HERBERT N. CASSON. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1910. 8vo, pp. vii+315. \$1.50 net.

Instead of being "The History of the Telephone" this book is really a history of the Bell Telephone and of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company. The author has given a very readable and interesting account of the invention of the telephone by Mr. Bell, his troubles in getting his invention introduced for practical purposes, and the formation and consequent history of the "Bell Company." He has even attempted to forecast the future of the telephone industry. But he has failed to give the "Independents" the credit to which they are entitled for their aid in the rapid development of the telephone industry since 1895, both by inventions and the actual building of lines.

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*Great Cities in America.* By DELOS F. WILCOX, PH.D. New York: Macmillan, 1910. 12mo, pp. vi+426. \$1.25 net.

The writer of this excellent treatment of the history, development, and problems of a number of cities in the United States is deeply conscious of the immense importance of "the problem of the great cities." "The city," he says, "is at once the parent and child of every citizen." How necessary it becomes, then, that the city should be brought to the highest possible degree of excellence!

Dr. Wilcox considers six typical American cities: Washington—"the Capital City; unique in having no municipal electorate"; New York—"the world's metropolis of wealth and extravagance"; Chicago—"the newest of the world's great cities; Philadelphia—"the city of Brotherly Love," "corrupt but contented"; St. Louis—"the German-American city"; and Boston—"the city where the culture and conservatism of New England join hand in hand with municipal extravagance."